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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/499,369	02/07/2000	Toshitsugu Wakabayashi	1190-0437P	1167
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Birch Stewart Kolasch & Birch LLP P O Box 747 Falls Church, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER TRAN, TRANG U	
			ART UNIT 2614	PAPER NUMBER 14

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/499,369

Applicant(s)

WAKABAYASHI, TOSHITSUGU

Examiner

Trang U. Tran

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 February 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-16 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 and 16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 10, 12-15 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed Feb. 5, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In re pages 10-11, applicant argues that, with respect to claims 1 and 12, Murayama, the Office Action notes that "RGB drivers 20R, 20G and 20B represents a signal processing circuit having a function of performing processing such as clamp, gamma, amplitude, bias adjustment, etc. on the R, G, B signals respectively"; however, that there is no disclosure or suggestion in Murayama that the RGB drivers 20R, 20G, and 20B vary the frequency characteristic of the image signal in a periodic manner.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Murayama et al discloses in col. 1, lines 27-59 that "the RGB driver 20R, 20G, and 20B represents a signal processing circuit having a function of perform processing such as clamp, gamma, amplitude, bias adjustment, etc. on the R, G, B signals respectively, and in this case paralleling processing is performed...the timing signals which are required for the RGB drivers 20R, 20G, 20B and the LCD panels 30R, 30G, 30B are generated by the timing generator 40" and in col. 5, lines 60-67 that "the phase shifter 47 varies the phase delay amount of the output voltage by a control input voltage which is input from the external of the timing generator 4, therefore, by varying the control input voltage, the phase of the timing outputs SH1, SH2, Sh3 (which are input to RGB drivers) of the timing generating unit 46 is varied, and also the phase of the output signals S1, S2, S3 (which are output from RGB drivers) is varied". From the above passages, it is clear that the

Art Unit: 2614

RGB drivers which are directly receive the image signal from the image signal processing circuit (10) and varying the phases (frequency) of the fields of the video signal are periodically varied with respect to the pixels (sample and hold circuits) according to the varying the control input voltage from the timing generator (40). Thus, the RGB drivers of Murayama et al do vary a frequency characteristic (the phase (frequency) of the video signal is shifted) as required by claims 1 and 12.

In re pages 11-12, applicant argues that dependent claims 5, 6 and 15 define over the applied prior art at least based on their dependency from claims 1 and 12, respectively, as well as on their own merits because claims 5 and 15 define over the applied prior art by their limitation that the image signal is passed through a variable inductance element and that the frequency characteristic of the image signal is varied by varying the inductance value of the variable inductance element in a periodic manner.

In response, as discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 12, Murayama et al disclose all the claimed limitations of claims 1 and 12. Additionally, the L1 and L2 of Kenji shift three primary colors (red, green, and blue) electronic beams slightly leftward and rightward. Thus, the display position of the color image signal which is supplied to the color cathode-ray tube is slightly shifted leftward and rightward. The shifting of the display position of the color image signal does indeed vary the frequency characteristics of the image signal because the frequency of the image signal is shifted with respect to time. L1 and L2 of Kenji do vary the frequency characteristics of the image signal as required by claims 5-6 and 15.

Art Unit: 2614

In re pages 12-13, applicant argues that Murayama fails to disclose or suggest the operation of determining a resolution of the image signal and periodically varying the waveform characteristic of the image signal depending on the resolution as required by claim 10 as well as method claim 18.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. It is noted that the display of Murayama inherently has predetermined resolution. The control input of Murayama anticipates the claimed control unit that determines a resolution of the image signal and activates the control circuit because the display of Murayama inherently has predetermined resolution.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 10, 12-14, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Murayama et al. (US Patent No. 6,346,936).

In considering claim 1, Murayama et al. discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed an image signal processing circuit receiving an image signal and processing the image signal for display as an image is met by the RGB signal processing circuit (Fig. 1, col. 1, lines 20-26), 2) the claimed an image display unit

Art Unit: 2614

receiving the image signal processed by the image signal processing circuit, and displaying the processed image signal as an image on a screen is met by the LCD panel 30 of the LCD display (Fig. 1, col. 1, lines 31-37), and 3) the claimed a control circuit receiving said image signal from said image signal processing circuit and varying a frequency characteristic of the image signal in a periodic manner is met by the RGB drivers 20R, 20G, 20B which represents a signal processing circuit having a function of perform processing such as clamp, gamma, amplitude, bias adjustment, etc. on the R, G, B signals respectively and periodic vary the phase of picture to the pixel according to the timing signal from the timing generator 4 and the timing generator 4 which generates the timing signal for the RGB drivers (Figs. 2 and 5, col. 1, lines 27-59, col. 5, line 36 to col. 6, line 12).

In considering claim 2, the claimed wherein the image is divided into spatial lines and temporal frames, and the control circuit alter said frequency characteristic once per spatial line in each temporal frame is met by the RGB drivers 20R, 20G, 20B which represents a signal processing circuit having a function of perform processing such as clamp, gamma, amplitude, bias adjustment, etc. on the R, G, B signals respectively and periodic vary the phase of picture to the pixel according to the timing signal from the timing generator 4 and the timing generator 4 which generates the timing signal for the RGB drivers (Figs. 2 and 5, col. 1, lines 27-59, col. 5, line 36 to col. 6, line 12).

In considering claim 3, the claimed wherein the control circuit also alters said frequency characteristic once per said temporal frame in each said spatial line is met by the RGB drivers 20R, 20G, 20B which represents a signal processing circuit having a

Art Unit: 2614

function of perform processing such as clamp, gamma, amplitude, bias adjustment, etc. on the R, G, B signals respectively and periodic vary the phase of picture to the pixel according to the timing signal generate from the timing generator 4 and the timing generator 4 which generates the timing signal for the RGB drivers (Figs. 2 and 5, col. 1, lines 27-59, col. 5, line 36 to col. 6, line 12).

In considering claim 4, the claimed wherein the control circuit comprises a timing circuit receiving a first synchronizing signal indicating said spatial lines and a second synchronizing indicating said temporal frames, and generating a timing signal by dividing a frequency of the first synchronizing signal, toggling the timing signal once per said spatial line and reversing a phase of the timing signal once per said temporal frame, said frequency characteristic being controlled according to the timing signal is met by the timing generator 4 which comprises the PLL circuit 41, the timing generating unit 46 and the phase shifter 47 as show in Fig. 5 (col. 5, line 36 to col. 6, line 12).

Claim 10 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 1, and further disclose the claimed further comprising a control unit that determines a resolution of the image signal and activates the control circuit, depending on the resolution is met by the control input which is input from the external of the timing generator 4 (col. 5, lines 58-67).

Claims 12-14 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claims 1-3, respectively.

Claim 18 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Art Unit: 2614

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-6 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murayama et al. (US Patent No. 6,346,936) in view of Nishino Kenji (JP Patent No. 06-12195).

In considering claim 5, Murayama et al. disclose all the claimed subject matter, note the claimed the control circuit varies the inductance value of said variable inductance element in a periodic manner, thereby varying said frequency characteristic of said image signal in a periodic manner is met by the RGB drivers 20R, 20G, 20B which represents a signal processing circuit having a function of perform processing such as clamp, gamma, amplitude, bias adjustment, etc. on the R, G, B signals respectively and periodic vary the phase of picture to the pixel according to the timing signal from the timing generator 4 and the timing generator 4 which generates the timing signal for the RGB drivers (Figs. 2 and 5, col. 1, lines 27-59, col. 5, line 36 to col. 6, line 12). However, Murayama et al explicitly do not disclose the claimed wherein the control circuit has a variable inductance element, the image signal passes through said variable inductance element. Nishino Kenji teaches that the level control circuit 35 is amplified while the police box voltage from the police box voltage generating circuit 10 is supplied to the current amplification circuit 37 and transformed into current. Coil L1 which is attached in the color neck of a cathode-ray tube section, and generates vertical

Art Unit: 2614

alternating field between the output terminal of this current amplification circuit 37, and grounding as show in drawing 5(A) and (B) and the series circuit of L2 (the respectively separate core is looped around) and the series circuit of a resistor 38 are connected (Page 2, lines 45-59). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate A coil L1 and L2 as taught by Nishino Kenji into Murayama et al's system in order to reduce the moiré generated with the color cathode-ray tube which used the shadow mask and the aperture grille.

In considering claim 6, the claimed wherein the variable inductance element comprises a coil having a primary winding and a secondary winding, the image signal passing through the primary winding, the control circuit alternately opening and closing the secondary winding is met by A coil L1 and L2 (Fig. 5, Page 2, lines 45-59) of Nishino Kenji.

Claim 15 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 5.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 7-9 and 16 are allowable.

Claims 7-9 and 16 identify the uniquely distinct features "wherein said waveform characteristic is an amplitude characteristic, and the control circuit comprises: a first amplifier circuit amplifying the image signal with a first gain characteristic; a second amplifier circuit amplifying the image signal with a second gain characteristic differing from the first gain characteristic; and a timing circuit selecting the first amplifier circuit and the second amplifier circuit alternately". None of references of record, either

Art Unit: 2614

singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Trang U. Tran** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-0090**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **John W. Miller**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4795**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231


or faxed to:

Art Unit: 2614

(703) 872-9306 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 308-HELP.

TT 
April 19, 2004


MICHAEL H. LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER